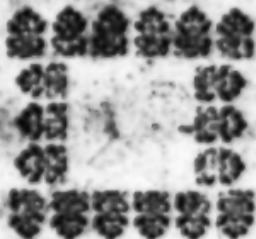


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THE  
FUGITIVE STATESMAN,  
IN  
REQUITAL  
FOR THE  
Perplex'd Prince.



LONDON,  
Printed by A. Grover, 1683.



ill the world, of necessity  
ought to be known to all  
whom it is fit to do  
**READER.**

**T**HIS Faction, a  
mongst the many  
evil instances they  
have so frequently given  
of their Spleen and Ha-  
bitudes the Government  
badly let themselves in their  
Malice more in any one  
particular, than in the  
Business of the Black  
Box, which furnish'd a

A 3 Pre-

Pretext to a Libel, call'd  
The Perplex'd Prince; which, tho' but poorly  
writ, yet the maligni-  
ty of the Design being  
to poison Peoples Minds  
with an Opinion of some  
Probability and Truth in  
that Matter. It was  
thought fit in Raign, to  
show the World one of  
their Principal Heroes,  
in his true Colours. How  
well soever his Picture  
may have been drawn by  
others, yet some Features,  
some

Limes perhaps may have  
escaped their Pencills,  
which are coucht here in  
the Landskip of that  
Arch. Taytor's Life.  
A Mirrour of him can-  
not be too often looked in-  
to; that one may avoid  
falling into the Snare of  
those wicked, wretched  
Partizans he has left  
behind him, who never  
cease undermining the  
Foundations of the Go-  
vernment; and are per-  
petually brewing Sedition,  
with

with the biggest Ingratitude, after all the Indulgence and repeated Pardons of their Gracious Prince and Sovereign: Tho' they can have now no Hopes, no Prospect of ever bringing about their long'd for Anarchy, yet we still daily see fresh Instances of their restless Endeavours to that End, so that one would think they do not yet despair of effecting their Purposes, notwithstanding they

they have lost their Pa-  
tron. But it is to be ho-  
ped their good Intentions  
will be Crown'd with the  
same Fate with that of the  
wicked Achirophel ; and  
that they now too will be  
thinking of setting their  
Houses in Order. It's high  
time ; for they are now be-  
come so much the Detesta-  
tion of all Mankind, that  
they can expect but little  
Comfort in this World ;  
and I am afraid, unless  
they give other Testimonies  
than

than they have yet done of  
their good Nature and ~~if~~ <sup>if</sup> it  
penitance, they are not to  
expect much Happiness  
and Felicity in that to  
come. How pernicious for  
ever it ~~be~~ <sup>will</sup> be to遐 rooked  
both to Church and State,  
they would be glad to suffer  
they had a due ~~sence~~ <sup>sense</sup> of  
their former practices and  
could they be but prevailed  
ed with to ask Forgiveness,  
they would undoubt-  
edly obtain their Pardon:  
But it is so much their  
and  
Nature-

Nature, and they seem so obstinately bent upon doing Mischief, that there is no probability of their ever being persuaded to forsake their evil ways. And since no Counsels do avail for the reducing them to their duty: nor to court them from destruction, we must e'en abandon them to their Fate, which undoubtedly at length will do them Justice, and reward them according to their Merits.

THE



Condition to have  
with yet such difficulties

of Government. The  
same difficulties

exist in the same  
degree in the

## Fugitive Statesman.

THE Land of *Judah* had  
never attained to that  
refinedness in Gallan-  
try, as under the Reign  
of *David*; that Prince having  
overcome all his Enemies both  
Foreign and Domestick, and  
established himself by his just and  
gentle Government, as well in the  
Hearts of his People, as upon the  
Throne of *Israel*, gave up those  
hours which are so necessary for  
Refreshment to amorous Designs,  
and was herein universally imi-  
tated by all his Subjects, that  
there was none of what Age and

Condition soever but had some Intrigue; insomuch that by this general Practice, there was no manner of Artifice, Contrivance, or Stratagem for the well managing an Amour, but what was brought to the highest Perfection, during the time of his waying the Scepter.

During the time that was betwixt David and Abboseth for the Crown of Israel, Abner finding factionly about Justice of David's Cause, but that it would be difficult to be possible for the Hebrews' Standard to stand that Provicer and his Country should losse the King of Israel as chievelyly stedfast handmaide Officer of Submissio unto his Rightful Prince with the forces not obtainable which David accepted of his Condition of bringing him again Michael his Wife, whom the Father had given to Phalti. The

Treaty was managed by Achitophel, and that with so much Art and Contrivance as procured him no small Measure of Success to David; and proved finally destructive to his Enemies: in 2000 B.C. when  
 -n Jezabel, or Michal's youngest Sister, living staid with her during the late Tribbles, was now willing to accompany her to Court; and in the several Conversations that Achitophel had with Jezabel upon that Occasion, he was so captivated with the Wit and Beauty of that Princess, as made him think the highest Felicity consisted in the possession of a Heart adorned with so many Charms; and that Excellence inspired him with Amorous Thoughts, so they inflamed him with the Ambition to attempt then insuflating himself into her Favour and Affection: This he did not despise obftructing, he knew his own Talents,  
 to

he knew none more fit than himself for close Designs and crooked Counsels; he was a Man sagacious and bold, had not only all the Arts of a Minister of State, but was as dexterous in the well managing an Amorous Intrigue; he knew that Jezebel was Ambitious, and had had formerly some Kindness for *David*, which was now turned into a violent Resentment, upon his having preferred *Bathsheba* before her. All these Circumstances concurring to the flattering his Hopes, he resolved to embark in this Design, notwithstanding he had not all the Advantages of Body as concut to the making a compleat and an agreeable Gallant. He was not long without finding an Occasion to make known to her his Passion, which he declared in such Terms as were most capable of Persuasion, and fittest

for Insinuation: But notwithstanding the Figure he made in the State, and the considerable Interest he had both in Court and elsewhere, he met with more Severity than he expected, and was treated with some sort of Scorn and Disdain, she having that Opinion of her Charms, as to think all Homages unworthy of her Allowance, that were not made by Crowned Heads.

Nevertheless *Abbitophel's* Flames were too raging to be stifled by this Resistance, and as it was one branch of his Character to undertake difficult Attempts, and to persevere until he had brought to pass his Designs, this Opposition did but the more whet his Desires, and make him set the greater Value upon the Object he adored. Thus he resolved never to desist until he had accomplished his Aim, and for

that purpose he besieged her with continual Affidavites, informed her constantly of all the Occurrences in the Cabinet Councils at Court, and secret Cabals in the City, and by these means sooth-ing her intriguing and aspiring Temper, and so by degrees insinuating himself into her Breast, he became in a short time a very extraordinary Favourite.

He had now changed his Con-duct in the management of this Intrigue. He for bore speaking to her of Love, expressing no Passion but for her Service, and her interest, telling her that no Prince is upon the Earth, who'd so well become a Thoroughas she, that undoubtedly Providence would one day do her and herself the Ju-stice, as to give her the Crown of all Asia. And when that any great Sovereign's Bed was vacant, he seem'd grieved that their Re-ligion

ligion: which a good Allow of  
 March, that Usurper might have  
 shown his Zeal for her Advance-  
 ment, in compassing his Interest for  
 the bringing it to pass. By such  
 like Discourses as these, I did ho-  
 wip upon her haughty Humour,  
 and became to that degree her  
 Belom Friend, that imagining she  
 could not expect ever to find a  
 Person so proper as Achitaphel to  
 make her Confidant, nor one  
 there capable of fitting into Exe-  
 cutors her fatal Designs, she was  
 solv'd to easch her Heart of these  
 tormenting Thoughts, which she  
 there kept pent up, by making  
 Achitaphel's Breast the Repository  
 of them. Thus one day after having  
 acquainted her with the Passages  
 at Court, and entertained her for  
 a long while with the Zeal she  
 had for her Service. My Lord,  
 said she unto Achitaphel, I am sensi-  
 ble of your good Intentions, and  
 am

am glad to find your Love changed into a Passion for my Interests, and to shew you how far you have won upon me; by the repeated Instances of your good Will and Favour, I am willing to unbosom to you my most secret Thoughts, and let you know what reason I have to be a Male content. You may remember, continued she, how that upon my Sister *Michael's* Marriage to *David*, I fell ill of a Fever, and I must own, though not without a Bluff, that his good Meen, his Wit, in short, all those advantages he had received both from Art and Nature, had made some Impression upon my Heart, and if I was not flattered I might have expected to have made the like in his; but notwithstanding all my endeavering Carriage, I found him insensible to all my Favours, nothing but *Michael* could he a dore.

She was the Object of all his Pra-  
 ses, and I of his Scorn and Neglect.  
 Nevertheless, I patiently bore  
 with this Preference, since it was  
 supported and confirmed by the  
 Will of *Saul*, and since he was  
 wholly ignorant of the Senti-  
 ments I entertained, tho I had  
 made all the Advances possible  
 to hint to him how favourably  
 his Vows would be heard if paid  
 to me, and told him all such en-  
 dearing things, as were consistent  
 with the Glory of a Princess of  
 my Rank: But *David* was so  
 blinded with his Passion for *Mi-  
 chal*, that he had no Eyes for o-  
 ther Charms. However in a  
 short time you know the Change  
 at Court, *David* was drove from  
 thence. I know it Madam, inter-  
 rupted *Achitophel*, for I am sure, I  
 was the chief occasion of his Exile  
 and Sufferings, but pardon the  
 Interruption, Madam, you shall

hear more of that hereafter. You  
know David was banished the  
Court, renewed she, you know  
Michal his Wife was given by  
Sam to Phalt, the Son of Leish  
and now my Love made me  
certain fresh Hopes, I fancied Da-  
vid would never condescend to  
a Reconciliation with a Person  
who had yielded to give her self  
to another, I had reason to expect  
David would certainly one day  
mount the Throne being so uni-  
versally rooted in the Affections  
of the People, and I had the Va-  
nity to believe that all the twelve  
Tribes could not furnish a Person  
fitter to share with him in his Glo-  
ries than my self. And when accor-  
dingly he returned, and you were  
sent to bring Michal back, my  
hopes revived more strong than  
ever; for though I might have ap-  
prehended he might have had  
some inclination still left for her,  
yet

yet knowing how much she had  
lost of her former (Charming) finery  
tho' she did not much mind not dis-  
pensing with her usual beauty and fash-  
ioning in this place. This made  
me then anxious to accompany  
her to York, in which I was  
cruelly disappointed of all my  
expectations; but Michael's return  
has not this. That the *David's* *Al-  
legories* formerly possessed  
this author's signature is the  
evidence of his affection for the reigns  
from which in his present band  
my Family daily more neglig-  
ent and depressed; and all son  
Person much beneath my Rank,  
and, may be, Motive. Here she pain-  
fully told the widow Chitophel, yet  
affuming the Discourse, told her  
that he had been long sensible of  
the Injustices she suffered, and  
as long desirous of procuring the  
means of doing her Justice, and  
of punishing her with Occasions

to shew her Resentment. It is not only the Danger, I persued her, that late Idem marchill those Charsms you possesse with so sev-  
reign a Degree, and the Passion I have in all that concerns you, that prompts me to Revenge, I have some Reasons of my own, that might pretend to spuspect it, if yours, Madam, alone were not sufficient to put me upon the Wing. I am neglected too at Court, *Husband's* Councils are pre-  
ferred before mine, and I am not thought worthy of having that share in the present management  
of Affairs, that perhaps I am ca-  
pable of. I am suspected of be-  
ing still inclined to the Family  
and Practices of your Fathers  
Sas, and they have not yet for-  
gotten the part I had in the seve-  
ral dismal Revolutions. And I  
must indeed confess I was never  
ever well affected to Kingly Go-  
vernment;

vernment; in Common-wealths, the bravest and wisest have commonly their share. But in a Monarchy all goes generally by Favour and Affection, and a Man cannot be thought a good Subject without being a Slave, and that Servility is in my Mind inconsistent with a generous Temper. Thus my natural Disposition led me to promote and foment the late Troubles, and I found David though so young, yet so extraordinarily gifted, that I foresaw he would have but little need of the Ministry of others, and I despised of ever having any thing to do in the administration of the Government, unless his Exclusion was obtained. This set me to work, and I found more ease than I expected in my undertaking; People were easily decoyed with Alarms of Invasion of their Properties, and Suppression

pression of their Liberties; we  
 scattered Rumours abroad of the  
 extraordinary Influence the Jew  
 s had at Court, and of the like-  
 hood there was of their intro-  
 ducing their Religion, if not openly  
 denied, and vigorously  
 opposed. The English  
 took with the silly People with  
 with the whole Sanhedrim; they  
 entered into Covenants, and by  
 United Forces, the said Angels  
 found the means to depose the  
 King both of his Throne and Life  
 and expel the Heir the Kingdom.  
 Yet all we who had first pro-  
 ced this Royal treason, were su-  
 spited in our Hopes, for the Arm-  
 y we made use of, usurped the  
 Power we had promised our-  
 selves, but then it was too late,  
 we were constrained to submit to  
 the Arbitrary Tyranny of the  
 Strong, and to Abrogate upon  
 the People what they had so much  
 dreading

dreaded; and what many thousands of them had endeavoured to prevent to the loss of their Fortunes, and their Lives, and thus did we occasion all the Calamities that a whole Nation in Combustion can suffer, without any Benefit to our selves, but we were forced to dissemble, and content our selves to stand as Cyphers to the Usurper. But he being dead and silly ~~Isbeyneth~~ upon the Throne, we fell again to contriving how to out him thence, and to place our selves in his stead. By these means our Party being divided, the People too generally affected to their promised Prince David, and one of our Chief Leaders upon our Backs with an Army, with which he favoured the Kings Return: All these things, I say, concurring to make me dispair of my own Advancement, and to see

His

His Restitution unavoidable, I thought it was best to shift for my self betimes, and therefore seemed as Zealous for His Recovery of the Crown, as any of his truest and antientest Friends; this made some way for the bringing me into Favour, I was crowned with new Honours for my Merits in that great Revolution, had a considerable share in the management of publick Affairs, had conferred upon me Offices of Trust, such as were both beneficial and honourable too in the Minds of the Vulgar, but yet I was not satisfied, I could not but still think it servile and slavish to truckle under an other, and did not yet despair of one day attaining to be the Head of all the Tribes of Israel, knowing the Nature of the Jews to be such, as that they shewed their Honour more than their Loyalty in calling

bring back David and setting him  
 on the Throne. I knew a Coun-  
 cillor-wealth who was their Golden  
 Calf; and I must confess I did  
 not expect they would have ob-  
 edied so long. I used all the  
 Arts imaginable to raise Jealous-  
 ies between the Prince and his  
 People; I promoted their giving  
 of Moans, and the raising of  
 Taxes; I also then scattered Ru-  
 mours abroad of the ill manage-  
 ment and squandering away the  
 Revenue; finding this to take my  
 Hopes revived, I proceeded on  
 to the giving the Prince such  
 Counsels, as I knew must of ne-  
 cessity lessen him in his People's  
 Affections. That is, I advised  
 the King to join with Pharaoh  
 against Tyre, I advised the break-  
 ing of the Triple Bond, on which  
 the safety of all Asia did depend;  
 I advised the shooting up the  
 Treasury, by which thousands  
 came

come to suffer want. Aivilgall  
 Toleration of all Religion, which  
 understand, I gave out was then  
 signed by the Count, I have make  
 way for the Religion of the *Protestants*,  
 so hated by the generality  
 of the Nation. By these and  
 other Councils and Decrees, I  
 found I had power well sufficient  
 to my Design: Now, none like  
 me could have effected all these  
 things: I had first supplant  
 the Just, the Wise and Learned  
 Aberdine, and then I had having  
 trusted me with the Principal  
 management of Affairs, effected  
 all these things, rather by surprize  
 than by the King's Allowance  
 and Consent: But inow President  
 Ruthven began to suspect my De  
 sign, who having founded my  
 Councils and Measures, destruc  
 tive to the Government, and  
 the Nation's Interest, he disfear  
 ded another Count, and fearing  
 among

among my Friends in the City? There I fomented the Plaines I had already kindled, I gave out that Solomon the next Heir was a Jealousie, that the Influence he had over the King might be fatal to the Religion of the Jews, and that if he had not already perverted the King, it was to be feared he would in time, or at least, he would not fail when he came to the Crown himself to introduce the Idolatry of the Jews, always inclined to rebel, found this Cry too suitable to their Natures, not to go along with it, they fell a marmulung, bawling out against Arbitrary Counsels, and a Change of Religion, and the Sabbath in it self was at length so infected, by the

Care

Case I had taken, that such Members should be elected as were inclined to Sedition, and Abhorrors of Monarchy: The *Sambedrion*, I say, it self, grew at length so infected, as to deny the King the necessary Aids for the supporting the Government, and defend his Subjects, and his Allies, against the growing and formidable Power of *Pharaoh*, for I had poisoned them with an Opinion, that what they should give, how necessary soever, would be employed to their Oppression, and not in their Defence, against the Enemies of the Kingdom. Thus, whenever Armies were raised by their Consent for the common Safety, I spread abroad Rumors that the Court intended to make use of them, for the putting in Execution Arbitrary Designs; Thus were they still cashier'd before the Business was effected for

which they were raised. This both redoubled the Peoples Umbrage, and encreased their Murmurs against the management at the Helm, being perswaded the Government had decoyed them into the raising of Forces to cut their own Throats. But notwithstanding all the Poyson I had scattered, *David* had still that Influence over the Hearts of his People, that nothing could fisten the least Suspicion upon him. *Solomon* his Heir indeed received several Outrages in many Encounters. We had work'd the Mobile up to a Belief, that he was a Favourer of Arbitrary Designs, that he went full of the Revenge for *David's* and his Suffering which he would not fail of cruelly executing, whenever he had an opportunity for so doing, and that he was labouring to restore the *Jebusites* and their

Facti-

Factions, and of those who were  
 both numerous and considerable,  
 who went in Possession of their  
 Estates. These were terrible  
 Alarums, they knew that this  
 Prince had no Betteration, Wis-  
 dom, and Valour, they knew he  
 never undertook any Thing with-  
 out effecting it, so that they  
 could not think themselves too  
 cautious in securing themselves  
 against all Events. This did the  
 whole Land ring with great  
 Complaints of this great and Ge-  
 norous Prince. And pray you,  
 Madam, abstain here the blind-  
 ness of this Republic, and follow  
 little, as where the greatest Virtues  
 are in their esteem; this glorious  
 Prince, had in a thousand Occa-  
 sions, hazarded his life, and all  
 in their Defences, against their  
 Enemies; and had such val-  
 ourious as will make him admired  
 by all Ages. But his Virtues in  
 Peace,

Principles were more less admirable  
than his Qualifications in War.  
He was remarkable for his Sincer-  
ity and Justice of his Conduct  
which was of great service to the  
most virtuous but it was not  
done in the Service of his Country  
but in that of his Friends. These late  
unfortunate Massacres, with the  
sudden Change of his Country  
which led him to a belief that this  
Principle was the Promoter of their  
misery; although he had so often  
and so prodigally ventured his  
Blood and all in their Defence.  
X. *Madam*, how safely  
they express'd against a  
Person they owned so much to,  
and how a few Arts and incred-  
ible Ignorance brought them up  
and to Perdition in the highest  
pitch of Ignorance. But what  
about this world, *Madam*, I must  
take another occasion to acquaint  
you, having at present to inter-  
est

*Abs-*

Ab-salom, and some others at a  
Rendezvous upon Matters of  
great Moment, which you shall  
not fail of knowing as soon as  
ever things are brought to any  
Ripeness, and I believe that you  
will not fail too of owning that  
never any Zeal and Passion could  
parallel that which I have for  
your Concerns. Thereupon ta-  
king his leave he went to the  
Rendezvous, where he found  
Ab-salom, Zimri, Nadab, Shimi,  
Corah, Issachar, Bether, Rabshake,  
Shuler, Phaleg, Ben-Jochanan, Ba-  
vach, Og and Doeg, with many  
others of all sorts and Conditions.  
Some of these were to head,  
countenance and give renown to  
the Party, others were to sow  
and disseminate Sedition. Each had  
a peculiar Talent for the Pro-  
vince that was allotted him. Ab-  
solom was a Prince endued with  
all the Qualities proper to win  
the

the Hearts of the People, he was  
beautiful above all the Men of  
his Time, had by early Conquests  
in the Wars of *Israel's* Neighbors  
gain'd mighty Renown and Glo-  
ry, was *David's* Son, which was  
sufficient to entitle him to be the  
Darling of all the Tribes: Thus  
the Gracefulness of his Mien, the  
Benignity of his Temper, the  
Comeliness of his Person, and the  
Vastness of his Performances, be-  
ing Charms capable of insinuating  
themselves into the Affections of  
Persons of all Conditions: None  
so generally adored, none so uni-  
versally celebrated as was *Abi-  
lath*. By this Balance it was that *Abi-  
chaphel* thought most fit to lure  
and decoy to his Party, if not the  
generality of all the Tribes, at  
least, the dissenting Sects of the  
Jews. Not that this Wily Poli-  
tician design'd or intended his  
Greatness, but for that he knew

that having so just Title to the  
Crown, he might always success-  
fully depend upon him, and their  
Faction, until that having thus  
divided and destroyed the Royal  
Family, by its Domestical Di-  
visions, he might by that means  
duce the Monarchy into a Com-  
mon-wealth, and a Democracy.  
Thus he had been long besetting  
him with all the Arts of a crafty  
Statesman, had flattered him with  
the Dominion he had never Obe-  
Peoples Affections, but then had  
presented him how highly  
derogating it was to his Honour  
for him to spend his days in Idle-  
ness and Ease, after he had so grand  
so glorious a Career, that such  
Laws would tarnish and hide  
away, unless cultivated by new  
Efforts and Undertakings, that  
his Father David was now in the  
Declension of his Age, and now  
lessened too in the Minds of the  
Peo-

People, as being suspected of having favoured the late Plot of the *Jesuſite*, *Solomon*, though a Prince endued with all the Virtues worthy of, and fit to illustrate a Throne, yet being thought a *Jesuſite*, the People did but the more abhor him for his good Qualifications, and thought that they only tended to the rendering him the more capable of introducing that change, which they fancied he designed, and consequently their own Oppression: That he had found the way to estrange People's Hearts from *David*, and that the general Cry was for Religion, Commonwealth and Liberty, with several other Arguments; as that being set up by the People, they would be the more fond of him as a Creature of their own making, and thought his Command were limited, yet in case of ill Success

cess upon any occasion, he might impute it to that Limitation, and to the shortness of his Commission, and then ended his Harangue with new Eulogies upon his former Conduct and Actions.

Thus *Absalom's* generous Temper being sooth'd by Praise and Flattery, and blinded by Ambition, the only Vice of great Souls, was almost ready to yield to the Artifices of this Fox, when for a while the Royal Blood strugling still in him, he replyed, that he had no pretext to take up Arms for the publick Liberty, that his Father govern'd with unquestion'd right, that he was the delight of Mankind, and the Faith's Defender, that he was acknowledg'd by all to be Good, Gracious and Just, was never known to have usurp'd upon the Laws, that his compassionate Nature had induc'd him to pardon Millions

lions of his Foes, that he distributed Justice impartially to all his Subjects; that he was mild, easy, humble, studious of the publick good of his People, that the mildness of his Reign did not suit with the stubborn Nature of the *Jews*, yet that therefore he was not to turn Rebel, and by encouraging the Wicked, run popularly distracted: That in case he were a Tyrant, oppressed the Peoples Priviledges, changed their Religion, and brought in the *Je-busite*; yet his part was no more than to mourn and lament, and look upon him as a Scourge from Heaven for their Sins, but that Nature, as well as a Subjects Religious Duty to a Sovereign, would curb and hinder him from entertaining any ill Design against his King and Father. Besides, continued he, what have his Favour and Indulgence left

no more to desire? he had always prevented and foretall'd my very Wishes; The Crown, then pawing, he perfued, though not without a Sigh, you know justly belongs to a more deserving Person, whom you know is born in the Right Line, whom you know stands possest of all the Royal Virtues that can endear a Sovereign to the Eyes and Hearts of all Mankind, especially to the brave and goodly the Enemies of our Country know his Courage, the King his Loyalty, and the World his Fame, the offending Crowd his Mercy, and his Friends extol and proclaim his Truth. Thus, continued he, I have no reason to complain that Heaven gave me no pretence to a Throne, since what people could be more blest in such a Prince as *David*, and such a Successour as *Solomon*? yet I could have

have wish'd (said he again with  
laugh) that I had either rais'd  
my Birth higher, or debas'd my  
mind lower, that I had been born  
in a legal way, and that I had got  
the *star of Solomon* in the World,  
for I find my temper too aspiring  
for the Circumstances of my  
Birth and Station; I find in the  
*David's* Blood too strong and  
prevailing to be allay'd by that  
of my Mother. In short, I find  
my Soul perpetually whispering  
in me, that desire of Greatness is  
a Godlike Sin.

When Hell's Minister saw him  
thus staggering, he plied him  
with fresh Attacks, and accosted  
him in this manner. Do you  
think the all-wise and all-boun-  
tiful God has imparted all those  
Prestigious Gifts to you in vain?  
No undoubtedly, they were de-  
-sign'd for a Throne, they were  
destin'd to fill the World with

Wonders of your Reign, and every action of your Life, and every Argument you have us'd do confute your Words, second my Wishes, and prove my Assertion. Not that *David's* Gentle Temper is to be despised, but it is a greater Virtue in a private Person, or an Ecclesiastick than a Sovereign, and a Masculine Soul is certainly fitter for a Throne. Has not his easy Nature induc'd him to make such lavish Grants to his never satisfied Subjects, that now nothing will content them but the Throne it self? Let the Kingdom be now in never so much Peril from the formidable and encroaching Power of *Pharaoh*, let *Israel's* Allies be never so much oppres'd and ruin'd for want of assistance from *David*, yet the Insatiate *Sanhedryon* will contribute nothing to the publick relief with-  
now. + C out

out *David's* lopping off and bestowing on them a limb of his Prerogative. Thus I'll take care by plying him with new Plots or plunging him into some expensive War, to bring him into such necessity as that he shall be forc'd to sell and give us his best and truest Friends, whom I have already so ordered the busines as to look upon as *Jebusites* and *Pharoah's* Pensioners. And when we have stript him of those, our next work shall be to purchase the Successor, whom my contrivances have stigmatized and rendered obnoxious to the State, and have turn'd all his Virtues like a Battery to his own ruine. Thus we will in time bring *David* to that extremity, that he shall for want of Moneys be forc'd to agree to the exclusion of *Solomon*, and pass your Title into Law : Wherefore your busines now will be to urge your

Fifth Right, the Publick Good, a Prevention of Change of Religious Worship, an hinderance to the Usurpation and Oppression of Liberties and Properties ; never be bigotted and seduced by a Natural Love, hearken to the Universal Call, the eyes of all Mankind are upon you, and by this course you not only stbdy the People's Happiness and fulfil their Wishes, but you likewise secure your self from ruine ; for do you imagine that so severe, so wise, so penetrating a Prince as the next Heir is, does not see through all your Artifices, does not mark the Progress you make in People's Hearts ? undoubtedly he does, and takes notice of the least step you take, and will upon occasion resent it, with a Vengeance, which self-defence will prompt him to ; for he can never think himself safe and secure, when

When he is in possession of the Throne, as long as you possesse the hearts of the People; wherefore the same self-defence the prime Law of Nature, obliges you to enter into such measures, as may secure your own and your friends Lives; and prevent the dreadful Consequences of a Jealousie Swaying the Scepter. Wherefore put in practice all the Arts that are necessary for the keeping people up to the ferment they are in, let no occasion slip for the promoting a Rebellion, try your Title while your Father is still living, and give out, that you take up Arms only in the King's Defence; and thus having recurd his Person, doubt not of success, for thereby you secure your Cause.

This Advice was most pleasing to Abbotom's mind, Disposition; and Ambition had that Ascendant over him, that he could no longer

longer resist the Allurements of a Throne, nor hold from joining with *Arbitophel* in his wicked Designs and Councils. This hellish Minister acquainted him with the Character and Part each Instrument had in the Prosecution of their Conspiracy: Told him, that as he knew *Zimri* was one of the greatest Wits of the Age; so being a Man discontented with the Court, for that one of his own Creatures, when he was Principal Minister, was now preferred before him, and invested with all those Honours and Offices of Trust, that he thought himself secure in the Enjoyment of *Zimri*, continued he, with his Wit and Drolling, now is capable of jesting some People into an ill Opinion of our Antagonists, and wheedling others into favourable Sentiments of us and our Cause. And then for

Nadab,

*Nedab*, said he, never could there have been found a fitter man for our Ends: He is ambitious, high Spirited, restless, and in Want; well vers'd in our Laws, has an indifferent good Pen, and has a peculiar Gift of Canting, which you know takes much with the meaner sort of Jews, so that this Man will do us great Service, both in preaching up, and writing People into Sedition; thus by supplying his Wants, and flattering his Ambition with considerable Preferments, he will prove a Drudge to the Cause, and a great Promoter of our Interests. *James* fam'd through the whole Land for his understanding the Statutes, being distast'd with the Court, for that he is not advanced to such Places of Trust which he fancies his Merit allows him to lay claim to; will be very serviceable to us in our

our Undertakings, for that he has  
a particular Talenc of wheyng  
the Seawites to meath Rebellion,  
and of making Treason just and  
consistent with the Laws of the  
Land. But a main Engine for  
the carrying on our Plot, will be  
Shimek A man, tho' not prodi-  
gal of his Money, yet of his Gall  
and Curses against Monarchy and  
Kings; and who will be as lavish  
of his Time and Paies, to ad-  
-dict the Government, as he is  
neggardly and sparing of his Pelf  
to relieve the Poor, succour the  
Needy, or help the Orphan and  
Widow. This Man, I'll take  
cate shall be chosen a Magistrate  
of Jerusalem; and he'll be sure,  
in case any of our Friends should  
fall within the Clutches of the  
Law, to pack such a Jury of  
Dissenting Jewes, as shall make  
no Conscience of violating their  
Oaths, to free our Partisans from  
the

the Punishments that are inflicted on Criminals of State. But our Master-piece is *Korab*, who tho' a Weaver's Son, yet I doubt not but that his performances in this Business, will make his name live to all Ages. He has been long preparing for the part he is to act: I once made him pretend himself a *Jebusite*, that so getting Acquaintance with those of that Sect, he might be the more able to varnish with probability the Matters he is to attest. This Fellow's Livelihood must depend on his Evidence; and he shall not only swear, that the Queen and the next Heir are in the Plot against the King; but that *David* himself does conspire with them, and the *Jebusites* against himself: How improbable soever this may seem to thinking persons, yet the *Jews* are of a temper so greedily to swallow

all

all that provokes and tends to the raising Sedition and Tumult. The next he represented to the ambitious youth, was *Ishban*, whose trade had long been to cheat the People; but now undertakes to reform the State. This man was rivall'd in his Wickedness by *Belial*, who tho' he had been several times pardoned by his Prince, yet during the time of his Government of *Jerusalem*, he was perpetually brewing Treason and Rebellion against his Sovereign and the State. *Rabibek* too made a considerable figure in the Roll, outwardly a Saint affecting to haunt the Conventicles, but privately the Stews and Bawdy-houses. A Man given to all manner of Debauchery, which he inherited as well as his Seditious Principles from his Father, and to promote a Change he cared not if he squandered away the maintenance.

nance of the Orphans, and the Treasure of the City, whereof he was the Keeper, and so he could but contribute to the pulling down Monarchy, he was Death to the Cryes of Distressed Widdows, and to the Lamentations of Wives and Children, whose Husbands and Fathers groaned under a heavy Captivity amongst the *Barbarians*, and for whose Redemption the publick had trusted him with Moneys, which he lavish'd away contrary to the design of the Charitable Donours, for the carrying on the Cause. Many more there were of the same Kidney and Malignity of Temper that were Managers and Promoters of this grand Design, whose Names and Characters it is too tedious to rehearse, and this taſt of the aforementioned, is ſufficient to give a queſtation of the Nature and Dispositions of

the

the whole Crew. But now it is  
time that I afford the Reader a  
sight of *Absalom* and *Achitophel* at  
one of their *Gabals*, and give him  
a prospect of their *Conflicts* and  
*Debates*.  
The place of their *Rehitez-  
vouz*, was commonly in some  
publick house in the City of Je-  
rusalem, for this Reason, that  
the flocking thither of several  
great Men of their Party, might  
give *Rehizown* to the *Cause*, and  
especially so contrived by *Achitophel*,  
that *Absalom* might be pub-  
licly seen, for that his Looks,  
Words, and Behaviour, carried  
with them that Charm, insinua-  
bly to insinuate themselves into  
the Hearts of the People, who po-  
sooner saw him than they were  
inspired with affection and won-  
der. The Company being now  
met, *Achitophel* finding *Absalom*  
still wavering, making a Confi-  
dence

ence of taking up Arms against his King and Sovereign, fearing too it might be the Destruction of the whole Realm, and the Death of the King himself, and moreover jealous, lest the pretence of publick good, - which they made use of, should be practised against himself, and with more reason too, since he had no lawful Title ; to which that Wily Minister replied, with a kind of scornful Air ; that he thought he had remov'd and destroy'd all those vain bogglings of Conscience, and jealousies of Consequences ; that he was already advanced too far to retreat now with safety, that what would be his security if he persued his Career, would be his downfall if he made a Retreat, which was his Popularity and the Ascendant he had over the Peoples Affections. That interest ought to be his only Idol, that

that if he did not consult his own Safety, he ought at least to consider how many friends there present, and others that were absent had already engaged themselves so far, that they exposed their Fortunes, their Relations, their Lives, their All for his advancement; and should he now abandon them and give himself and them up a Sacrifice to the resentment and revenge of an highly injur'd enemy, would not only be madness to himself, but ingratitude to his generous Partizans. This reflexion of his Friends sufferings and ruine in case he *desist-ed*, joyning with his ambition and the love of Glory, which he fancied shin'd no where so bright as on a Throne, determined him to comply with their Instances and Importunities, and made him resolve vigorously to prosecute the measure they had taken. Whereupon

upon they began to concert matters for the well managing and prosecuting their Design. It was resolved in that Meeting, that *Absalom* should take a Progress through the Land, well knowing that the Charms and Popularity of that Prince would invite many to their Party, be a means of sounding peoples Affections, and of distinguishing their Friends from their Enemies. Whereupon *Absalom* set forth with all the Splendor and Magnificence imaginable, was saluted in all places with the Shouts and Acclamations of the People; what by his winning Personage and Carriage, what by the specious Pretexts of Love and Duty to his Sovereign, and due regard to Religion, and redress of Grievances, with his many Glorious performances in the Wars abroad, the whole Land rung with his Praises,

ses, and the people thought they  
 could never sufficiently admire  
 and extol a Prince adorned with  
 so many perfections. In all places  
 where he past, the Jew flockt  
 in great Numbers to him, expres-  
 sing the Joy and Satisfaction they  
 took in the sight of such a Prince ;  
 and he in return, cajol'd them  
 with all the softest Words that  
 Tongue can utter, telling them  
 that he had been a banished man  
 for their dear sakes ; that his en-  
 deavours to prevent their Op-  
 pression by an Arbitrary Govern-  
 ment, had been the Occasion of  
 his having been cut off from the  
 Succession to the Crown, and  
 had made him incur his Father's  
 Displeasure and Resentment ;  
 that now all their Liberties were  
 to him and his under Foot by a  
 Despotic Prince, that their Trade  
 was intercept'd and invaded by  
 the Egyptians and Syrians, and  
 the

that ~~Yahweh~~ were bringing in  
their Idolatry and Abominations.  
That for his part, he did not in  
the least regret his Loss, how con-  
siderable soever it was, since his  
Sufferings only proceeded from  
his having stood up in their De-  
fence and Behalf. But that he  
could not but mourn the sad con-  
dition they were in, since his Fa-  
ther, continued he, with a Sigh,  
looking now in the Declension of  
his Age, and abating on the  
Chains of the Egyptian Princes,  
was grown careless of his Glory,  
suffered all his Councils to be  
influenced by his Successor, who  
envied David's Enemies, and  
discouraged and routed all his  
Friends. These are Grievances,  
practised ~~him~~ of such a Nature  
as cannot be too highly imputed;  
and as the seated, were com-  
municated and supported by Bribes  
and Summs of Foreign Coats. That

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he had hazarded his All, and had already lost his Offices and Favor for their Redress: But that he did not repine at David's having given his Right away; but that he could not without Tears reflect at his having squander'd away theirs and his own, to the Dishonour of the Jewish Name, to his own Downfall, and their Slavery.

Such were his usual Words and Caresles to the People, who were thus wheedled into a belief, that they could not afford him too much of their pity and compassion. These blandishments prepared the way for Adithyah to work what he had been long contriving. This cunning undetectable Minister was not idle at Jerusalem during these Occurrences in the Country. As he had dallied and fill'd the whole Land with Terror and Conternation, by

by having suborn'd Corah to swear the Queen and Solomon into the Plot with the Jebusites, in Conjunction with the Egyptians, were said to have upon the Government; so now finding by the Pulse of the Nation which way they were inclin'd, he contriv'd, set on foot, and promoted an Association, being the same thing under an other Name, as the Covenant, which had formerly been made use of for the excluding and keeping David out. Then he fell to stir up the People to Petition for a Meeting of the Sanhedrim, and yet underhand took care that such Members should be generally chosen as were Dissenters from the Establisht Religion of the Jews and Dissaffected to the Government. These he knew would never give David the Supplys necessary for the Support and Defence of the State, but would

embarrass matters so, as would render the unbinding of the Government an undertaking the more easy to effect. Besides, he had other Prospects in setting on foot the Association and these Petitions, how directly contrary soever they were to Law. For by these means he numbered and listed his Party, and moreover, made them seem more strong and numerous to the World than they really were. And having thus engaged the Male-contents and Dissenters in a Conspiracy, he knew they could not go back, but must vigorously pull it on, unless they had a mind to fall under the severe Penalties and Injunctions of the Law. He likewise gave out that there was a certain Instrument preserved in a Black Box, being the Contract of Marriage between David and Absalom's Mother, and a settlement of

the

the Crown upon the Issue he might have by that Lady. Notwithstanding the improbability of this Rumour, and *David's* protesting publickly the groundlessness and falsehood of it, yet it was very serviceable to *Achitophel's* Designs, since the people believing what they ardently wished for, would by no means be perswaded of the contrary, and this seconding their former Measures and Purposes, they thought now all their irregular proceedings supported and countenanc'd by Law. Now they began to redouble their Clamours for the convening of the *Sanhedrim*, who were no sooner met than they fell to voting that all those who were Loyal and Zealous for the support of *David* and the Crown, were Traitors and Enemies to the King and Kingdom, that all those who contributed to the relief of the necessities

ties of the State, were the same. In short, all things, Actions, and Persons, that stood up in and tended to the maintenance and preservation of the Monarchy, were thus tumultuously voted and declared Illegal, Treasonable, and Arbitrary. Thus were all the King's Faithful Ministers to be banish'd from His Person, His Succession was voted a Jealousie, yet without any proof made of his being so, or without any desire of his declaring himself upon that point ; but they did not stop there, they drew up a Bill of Exclusion of the next Heir from the Crown, which they importun'd the King to sign and pass ; declaring it the only means of securing the State. But meeting with a just opposition in this so horribly unjust request, they declared, notwithstanding the King offered to comply with any other Expedi-

Expedient, they again declared, I say, that there was no other way to prevent any change of the Establisht Religion, the Subversion of their Liberties and Properties, and an Inundation of Arbitrary Government and Tyranny. The King in the mean while repeated again and again his Instances for the bringing to tryal such of the Lords as were accused to have a hand in the *Jesuites Plot*, but all to no purpose; the *Sanhedrim* was Death to wholesome Counsels, and rusht on upon matters out of their Province. The Wise and Prudent *David* foreseeing the mischievous Consequences and *confusion* these Excesses and Irregularities of that great Body must necessarily be attended with, thought fitting for prevention of those Calamities and sad Revolutions which in all probability would follow in case

they were suffered to go on at that rate, to dissolve them, and issue out Orders for the choosing a new *Sanbedrim*. But all to no purpose, he found in them the same heats and ferment, so as that they now seem'd to be become resolute, tumultuary, Debauchees; thus was he constrain'd again to send them home, and order a new Election, convening them to meet at *Baberim*, in hopes that the change of air might have some effect upon their temper, and that being no longer pamper'd and posson'd by the seditious rout of *Jerusalem*, their Debates and Resolves might proceed with more deliberation and tend more to the publick good. But still he found himself disappointed in his Expectations and pious intentions. He found true, what their Speaker declared at the opening of the Assembly, that they were not

not given to change, which is to be meant of their Seditious Practices and Principles. Nay, they came thither so attended, each Member with such a Guard as surpassed the King's own, and burst into such rash and destructive Resolves, that *David* having intimation too under-hand of a Conspiracy to seize upon his Person, and that many of the Members came thither so numerously and so strongly attended for that purpose, he was again forc'd for his own and the Kingdom's security to Dissolve the *Sanhedrim*, and return in all hast to *Jerusalem*, by which means the Seditaries were frustrated in their *Designs upon His Person*. But nevertheless, this did not make them discontinue their treasonable Practices, and they scattered abroad, Cleavers more than ever, fomenting Jealousies amongst

amongst the Subjects, declaiming against the King's Government, as if the next Heir and the *Jesuſites* had the whole Aicer-dant over his Connels, they had their *Inendiaries* in all parts of the Kingdom, both for the Preaching up Sedition and scattering about Libels for to alienate the hearts of the King's Subjects, and to bring all into Anarchy and Confusion. Some of these Instruments were catcht and hang'd up for their pains, which was the least they deserved, having Libels found about them of so horrible a nature, as was capable of poysoning and infecting the soundest part of the People.

Hereupon *Eliz.* thought it fitting and seasonable for the preventing the Malice of his Enemies from producing it's effect to issue out a Gracious Declaration, wherein he condefchded to give his

his Subjects an account of his Conduct, and the Reasons he had to Dissolve the late *Sanhedrim*, justly checking them therein for their Irregular Proceedings, and assuring his Subjects of his constant Resolution to maintain the Establish'd Religion, the Government as settled by Law, and that the Law should be the constant Rule he would govern by. This produc'd the good effect he design'd; the People remembred the Calamities they groaned under in the time of the late Troubles and Usurpation, they easily perceived the same humours were fomenting and nourishing the same Designs, they saw the same Methods and Measures taken and pursued, and several of the truly Loyal Jews had newly had a taste by the exorbitant Resolves of the *Sanhedrim*, what a bitter Entertainment they were to expect, in

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case they were allowed to pursue blindly their Career, to their own and the Nations Ruine and Destruction. These Considerations (I say) made the Truly Loyal *Israelites* bless God for having bestowed upon them so Wise and Prudent a Sovereign, and who was so watchful for their good and happiness here, and their future felicity, by taking care no *Innovation* should be made in the Divine Worship, nor no *Usurpation* upon their Properties and Estates.

Thus the Loyal flock from all parts of *Israel* with Praise and Thanks to the King for his Indefatigable Labour and Vigilance for their safety and Repose, declaring, that notwithstanding all the Noise, and Clamours, and endeavours of the Enemies of the Publick Peace, they would continue Loyal to him to the last.

Gasp,

Gaspe and Sacrifice their Lives  
 and Fortunes in defence of his  
 Person and Dignity, and the Suc-  
 ceßion in the Right Line. <sup>10 15</sup>  
 Notwithstanding that the Loy-  
 alists by best means shewd them-  
 selves to be much stronger and far  
 more numerous and considerable  
 for Estates, and the Figure they  
 made in the Nation, than the  
 Malecontents and Seditionaries,  
 yet these last did not desist from  
 their Devilish Practices. <sup>10 15</sup>  
 in the mean while <sup>10 15</sup>  
 what by his incensing Speeches in  
 the Sanhedrin, what by his other  
 Contrivances for the working the  
 People up to a Tumult, as by  
 burning the Golden Calf, and  
 the like, having laid his Design  
 but too open to the eyes of all  
 Mankind; and being likewise ac-  
 cused of Treason, he was taken  
 into Custody, and committed to  
 close Imprisonment. Amongst  
 other

other things said Daughter of a De-  
-fector was founde sholght  
- his Papers, which though admis-  
- ter of High Treason, and that se-  
- verall points of the like nature  
- were lawfulte and secur against  
- him by severall Credible Wit-  
-nesses by their Distrusting him  
- having then in their power the  
- impanelling of Juries, they packt  
- up such a number as whiche  
- Consciences wold suffer em to  
- see their Sovereigns life, and the  
- whole frame of the Government  
- in danger of being destroyed, in-  
- therthair put their Seducer Hob-  
- lyne to the hazard of being  
- brought into a fair Tryal, shoun  
- in his own Colours, and so re-  
- warded according to his Deserts.  
- But are they to blame for this?  
- Were not they themselves as well  
- engaged as he in the Conspitey?  
- And no Law obliges a Man to ac-  
- quise himself, they knew their  
- olio  
- QWN.

John Preston confessed his  
Acquaintance, and it was unseafos-  
tible to expect they should pass  
Sentence upon themselves, which  
they fancyed they should have  
done, had they allowed of the  
Justices of his Impeachment. And  
people of their Mould and Princ-  
ples always make Conscience,  
give way, and submit to Self-  
Preservation and Interest. And  
besides, they thought perhaps,  
one Man more capable of putting  
his House in order than himself.  
Thus was the Arch-Taytor again  
detain'd in Liberty, and Canting Na-  
dad too notwithstanding all the  
Proofs that were brought against  
them. Several other Dissenters  
too were released, maugre the  
notoriusness of their Crimes, upon  
a Law the Seditionaries had  
taken care to have pass'd some  
time before the breaking out of  
the Plot, by this Law in case of  
Balk

Both banished nor Men could be  
 detained in Prison; and the Re-  
 gion would never suffer their  
 Partizans to want that upon any  
 Occasion. Thus Law and Justice  
 were perverted in those wicked  
 Men's hands, their Cause was their  
 Golden Galf, and they thought  
 no Crime to Sacrifice their Con-  
 sciences, their Repute, nay, the  
 Honour of the Nation. (Since it  
 bred almost a Detestation of the  
 Jew in Foreigners, in that it was  
 capable of Producing and Breeding  
 such a pack of Monsters);  
 So that they could but compass  
 their Ends, and bring about their  
 long desired and taugt for Revolu-  
 tion. They still had in mind  
 the sweetness they had tasted in  
 the Sequestration of the Loyal  
 Jew Estates, they long'd to be a-  
 gain at pillaging and plundering,  
 and they cared not what Desola-  
 tions soever they might bring up-  
 on.

on the Realm, so they but attain'd their Insatiate Lust of Power and Arbitrary Executions, this was the scope of all their Wishes, this they drove at in all their Consults and Cabals, and this they had effected, had not the President and Most Vigilant Prince that ever God plac'd at any Helm by an unparallel'd Conduct disappointed their Execrable Designs.

These Proceedings still more alarm'd and awaken'd the Truly Loyal Jews, and they unanimously found no means so conducing to the safety of their Prince, their Religion, and their Country, then to enter into an Anti-Association against the Mutineers and Seditionaries. All the Towns, all the Provinces of the Land of Judah and Israel rung with Acclamations of David's President Conduct, offered up their Praises,

Praise to God for bestowing on  
them so good, and so Gracious a  
Prince, and poured forth their  
Thanks and Acknowledgments  
to him, for his Pious and Indefatigable  
Care and Vigilance for  
their Safety and Preservation  
here from all Usurpations of their  
Fellow Subjects, and for their  
Eternal Happiness hereafter, by  
hindring their being perverted  
and seduced by any Innovations  
in their Religious Rights and  
Worship. Thus *David* began  
again to recover and establish  
himself in the Affections of his  
Subjects, all that Malignity  
wherewith the Faction had en-  
deavoured to poison People's  
Minds, began to purge away of  
it's self, their Eyes began to open  
and see clear, and they perceived  
the Bait, the Lure that was laid  
to draw them into the same snares,  
the same Desolation they had  
for-

formerly so miserably suffered by the same means. Then they began to be ashamed of, and detest the Torrent which they had so blindly gone along with before; and their Breasts were not sufficient to contain the Abhorrence they had of these Trayterous Courses, but they express'd it to one another, they humbly declared it to their Prince, offering their Fortunes and Lives a Sacrifice for his safety upon all occasions to put a stop to the restless endeavours of the Faction to destroy the Peace and Tranquility of the Nation, and to involve it in Anarchy and Confusion. These Offerings were received by David with his accustomed goodness; and now seeing the sound part and generality of the Nation undeciv'd of the injurious Surmises they had entertain'd, He thought it now seasonable to recall back the

the Suffering Heir from Hebron, where his Conduct had been such as to quell and destroy that Spirit of Sedition and Discord so natural to that People, and found the means to bring plenty into the Land and reduce it to a greater Calm and Tranquillity than it had for many Ages enjoyed. But the *Hebronites* were not they who alone enjoyed the good Effects of his prudent management of Affairs in that Country, the Jews themselves were by it delivered from a Torrent and Inundation of Misery and Confusion; That upon all Tempestuous Incursions, used to break in from Hebron, upon the Land of *Judah*.

These fresh and repeated Instances of *Solomon's* wise and zealous Application for the Good and Welfare of the Jews, made them chuse again for a Sight of the Heir of the Crown, Whereupon

upon they renewed their hum-  
ble Acknowledgment to *David*,  
upon his Resolution of calling  
him back from *Hebron*, and grew  
jealous, and envied the *Hebro-*  
*nites* the Happiness of having en-  
joyed his Presence, and the be-  
nign Influence of his Wisdom so  
so long a time.

Then began the Conscious Fal-  
lition to fall into Despair: They  
perceived all their Wiles, all  
their Artifices for the working  
up People to a Civil War, pro-  
ved abortive, through *David*'s  
wise Government, and *Solomon*'s  
prudent Councils. They found  
the Friends of *David* to be so  
many, so great, and so illustrious,  
that all their Arts and Contri-  
vances, could not in the least ba-  
lance, or come in comparison  
with their Zeal and Virtues.  
*Barcellat* had long flourished in  
the Roll of Fame for his constant  
Loyal-

Loyalty to the Crown, had once sacrific'd his vast Fortune and his Ease in its Defence; and was no less celebrated for his Virtues and his Learning, than for his Performances in War, and his Conquests oyer *David's* Enemies. Glorious too he was in a Son, who had fill'd the World with wonder at his Conduct and Valour in Naval Combates, and by Land had put a Stop to *Pharaoh's* dreadful Power, and impetuous Progresses toward *Israel's* Confederates. *Zadock* the High Priest, had been constantly watchful since his promotion to that high Office, to preserve the Ark from Schisms and Innovations. *David* knowing his Zeal and Worth, had advanc'd him to that high Dignity, notwithstanding he had carefullly shunn'd all Power and Grandeur. The *Zogas* too of *Jerusalem*, who descended of *Isaac* and *Noble*

noble Race, did as nobly assert the Rights of the Church and State against all Factious and turbulent Invaders; and the Prophets Sons being led on by such Examples, were bred up in Loyalty, Learning, Religion and Virtue. *Elisias* a constant Friend of *David* in all Storms and Tempests of State: his Native Excellencies were polished in his very Youth, by Foreign Treaties and Negotiations; and *David* found by his Management of those Matters he then entrusted him withal, his great Capacity for the performing and officiating those high Offices he bestowed upon him at home. Neither was he deceived in his Expectations: For his frugal Care supplied the Necessities of the State, when the Treasury was at the lowest Ebb. *Jotham*, a Man of vast Copiousness, and penetration of Wit, gifted beyond

yond Comparison by Nature, and form'd by Arts and Learnings, to perswade and prevail over the Hearts and Affections of Assemblies. *Bezaleel*, whose Command was over the Kenites Rocky Province: His Nature had so abundantly stock'd with all Advantages in its Disposal, that Education and Learning found him compleat and in no need of their Conjunction to render him perfect. He had all the Virtues, without any of the Vanities which usually attend them, and had the Happiness too to see all his Glories copied in his Son. *Abdael* adorn'd with all his Father's perfections, who had restor'd *David* to the Crown without so much as the loss of one sole *Israelite*. *Abdael* the Head and Governour over the Prophets School, pursued his Father's Foot-steps, and by his undaunted

ted perseverance in his Fidelity to his Prince, made the Faction conscious how impossible it was to bring about their Ends as long as the Crown was surrounded, and supported by Friends of such a temper. *Eliab*, who had long wander'd and partak'd with his Royal Master in all his Sufferings abtoad, and had been firm to him in all those sad and doleful Persecutions of Fortune; For which, and several other Services he was rewarded with the Charge of the Royal Household, and had his only Heiress deck'd with all the Pride and Beauties of Nature, united to young *Othriel*, *David*'s Son, and the Illustrions restorer of his Father's youth, and likewise was celebrated by the Principal among Foreign Authors for one of the greatest Ministers of his Age. *Helon*, tho tempted by *Pharoah*, with all the

Glories, Allurements and Grandeur of his Court ; and tho an *Egyptian* too by Birth, yet he abandoned his Country, refused the tempting Offers of *Pharaoh*, and slighted his Idols to give himself to *David*, bringing with him such a Virtue, that neither Profit or Example could seduce or betray. *Sheva*, than whom none was more Loyal and watchful to defend the Prerogatives of the Crown, to render Sedition and Turbulency odious and in their true Colours, to undeceive the People of those Shams and Frauds that were palm'd upon them by the Factious Scribes, and to purge away those vehement and seditious Humors and Distempers which the Faction were always infecting the Tribes with. *Asaph*, who in Charming Numbers sung the People into Loyalty ; and by as keen Satyrs made

made those who obstinately persevere in their Evil Practices, ashamed of their Doings, and exposed them to the Derision and Detestation of others. These were the principal of those who stood in the Breach, and dar'd the Fury of the Seditionaries, when their hopes of Success were at the highest, and they thought themselves in a fair way to bring about their mischievous and wicked Contrivances. The Faction was sensible how difficult a Task it would be to make way to the Crown through so brave a Band: And therefore to remove this Guard, they voted many of them in the *Sanhedrim* Enemies to the King and Kingdom, and address'd to *David* to have them discarded from their Attendance upon his Person, and banished from their places in his Council; but *David* was too well ac-

quisited with their Worth and their Zeal, for his and their Countreys Welfare and Service, to give them up a Sacrifice to the insatiate Rage of a mutinous and rebellious Multitude. He knew that as long as his Throne stood upon such a Foundation as their Loyalty and Affections, the Enemies not only to Monarchy, but to all Government and Order, would never, notwithstanding all their Malice, be able to undermine it.

Nevertheless, the Seditions maugre the little Prospect they had of Success, left not off intriguing and caballing against the State, trying by all possible Means to embroil Affairs, seduce Peoples Affections, and raise in them a Jealousie and Umbrage of the Government. For that purpose Ben-Jochanan the Levite was set to work. This Man being

ing of mean Birth, and brought into Want by a Marriage, or a Wife out of the Dregs of the people, tho indeed suitable to his own Extraction, turn'd *Renegade*, and became a violent Incendiary and Promoter of Sedition. The Faction taking hold of his Want, and the Sordidness of his Temper, pickt him out for an Instrument; and his Busines was to frame a parallel between the Illustrious Heir, and that Grand Apostate, who first seduc'd the people to fall down and worship the *Golden Calf*. This piece having been long and painfully work'd up by him, did, before it was sent abroad, pass the Test and Scrutiny of the principal Hands of the Faction. His main Scope and Design was to breed a Jealousie in the people of the Government's being inclined to favour a Change of Religious Rites

Rites and Worship, and to bring in the Ancient Superstitions and Idolatries of the *Jesuſites* : And then it proceeded to affirme, that in case of such a Change and Innovation, it was lawful for the people to oppose and divert by main Force of Arms, all Parties and Efforts that tended thereunto ; and if by any Circumstances it could be presumed, that the Government persevered in such a Design or Resolution, that then it was lawful for the People to depose and kill such a Prince, and alter the Government be it what it will.

This piece striking the Juxture, was mightily cryed up by the Party, though all Men of Sence and Reason, detested its Doctrine and Abhor'd the Parallel and Draught. Besides, the thing it self was but shallow and no Bugbear, and not over fit for the

the purpose they design'd it, notwithstanding all the care that had been taken to make it a Prodigy of a Book. For it was rather a Panegyrick upon the Apostate, and a defence of Apostacy, then a Satyr against those who abandon the true Religion. But perhaps this is the only instance that the Author or the Faction ever gave of Modesty. And indeed, with what face could they dare claim against Apostacy, when they themselves were guilty of it in the highest Degree, for they were not only Apostles to their Sovereign, to their Nation and their Government, but also to their Religion and their God. And therefore it is no wonder if they endeavoured to maintain and scatter abroad such detestable and abominable Tenets as were not only destructive to Monarchy, but to all Government.

and order in the World. But Peoples Eyes being too well opened and their Affections to the Government too strong, to be ensnared by such course Stratagems and such thin nets, they haunted about for new Contrivances, endeavouring by all the means imaginable to get such Magistrates chosen in all great Towns and especially in *Jerusalem*, as were affected to their Party, and hinking by that course to fitter up the Course of Justice, and thereby to prevent a just revenge upon all their Crimes. But the Loyal Jews were now grown so sensible of the Destructive Machinations of the Faction, and so fearful and apprehensive of falling again into the same Ruine and Calamities, they had but so lately groaned under, by the same Men, who made use of the same Pretences and the same Co-

lours to decoy them into Misery and Destruction. I say, being waru'd by their past Sufferings and Desolations, they vigorously stood up in defence of the Government, insomuch, That notwithstanding all the Hellish cunning and Contrivances of their Cabals, notwithstanding, all the Zeal and Spirit of the Party, who were reduc'd to that Extremity, as to be in *danger* of being brought to condign punishments, in case they fail'd of having such Officers and Magistrates elected as were of their own Leaven, yet they were disappointed of their hopes and Expectations, the Loyal Jews found out and expos'd their Forgeries and Illegal Proceedings, rendered them odious to the sound part of the Nation, and procured such Officers to be chosen, as were zealous for the *True Religion* as then Established, Asserters of

Monarchy and the Government, Impartial Lovers of Justice, and wholly devoted to the good and interest of their Countrey. This heightened the Factions Despair, they were now at a terrible *plunge*, and knew not well what Course to take, but the rancour they had sowed had taken such deep root, that a great part of the Mobile of *Jerusalem* had still so much of the *Infection* left in them, that they were ready upon all occasions to fall upon such Officers of Justice, who came to put the Laws in Execution upon such *Criminals* as were of their Party, and had incurred Penalties by their Mis-behaviour and their *Transgressions*. By these means several were rescued from *Justice*, and the Laws hindred from being put in Execution. But though they foresaw that this could not long secure them, they still continued to

to use all manner of means to en-  
deavour to alienate the Peoples  
Hearts and Affections from the  
King and his Heirs. There had  
formerly appeared in the World  
a Book, Entituled, *The Growth  
of the Superstitions of the Jebusites*,  
Written by an Ingenious though  
a disaffected Jew. This same  
piece had met with a favourable  
Reception amongst the Jewish  
Male-Content, and a Continuation  
of it was at thistime thought pro-  
per to revive the Umbrages of the  
People; amongst other things it  
endeavoured to persuade, that  
there had long been a Secret  
League and Treaty between Pha-  
roah and the Monarch of Jerusa-  
lem, whereby David was oblig'd  
amongst other Articles to intro-  
duce the Worship of the Jebusites,  
and that for that purpose Pharoah  
should assist him with Men and  
Money, and likewise, to make  
himself

himself absolute over the Lives and Estates of his Subjects. A mad, ridiculous sham and invention. Edict was a thing impossible ever to bring in and establish, the *Jehusites* without wholly destroying the *Jews*, and certainly never any *Prince* out of an Affection to some few particular Men, and a *Saint* destructive to Monarchy, and *Dependant* on a Foreign Head, would destroy the main Body of the *Nation*, and leave himself without Subjects and Support. And as for the *Jehusites* being brought in by the *Consent* of the *Jews*, is a thing never to be suppos'd, since their very Habitacions were the *Ancient Possessions* of the *Jehusites*, and the *Jews* would certainly never allow of their Return, whom they had deprived of their *Inheritance*, well knowing they would never be content until they were re-insta-

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ted in them again, and that *Baal* not only claimed their *Conscience*, but their *Lands* too. And as for *Pharaoh*'s contributing his aid and succour to the King of *Judah*, for the resettling them and *Tyranny*, it is well known he has always been too great a Slave to his Interests and *Grandeur* to commit such a *Solecism* in *Politicks*, as to put Arms into such a hand as of all *Asia*, was alone capable of putting a stop to his *Prodigious* and dreadful *Career*. He knew the temper of the *Jewish People*, the Constitution of their Government, with the Infatuation the *Sanhedrim* lay under, to be such that they would give no Supplys to the Crown, though in the greatest *Exigencys* and *necessitrys* of State, out of a frantick and groundless fear, that they might be employed to their own *Oppression*. He knew too that the settled

settled Revenues on the Crown were too short and inconsiderable to suffice either supporting the Crown it self, upon occasion, or defending and relieving the Allies and Confederates of *Israel*, against the spreading and overflowing Arms of *Egypt*; though his Wealth and Revenues were vast, he employed them such ways as more contributed to his Grandeur and the Enlargement of his Empire. He brib'd and made Pensioners of a vast number of *Jews*, who pretending Zeal and Friendship to the State and Government, yet at the same time maliciously insinuated into the People, that there were Designs on foot at Court to Usurp their Sacred Rites and Properties, that the Royal Family were inclinable to *Baal*'s Superstitions and Idolatry, that without Tyranny and Arbitrary Power was to be.

be introduced. By such like Wiles and Artifices as these were the Chosen People seduced to entertain an ill Opinion of their Governours and upright Patriots, and to cry up, and extol those Traytors to their Countrey, who by such Courses created those Divisions amongst the *Hebreus* as weakned them and rendred them uncapable of opposing the Growth of *Egypt's* King. They were the Persons who endeavoured to sell and bring upon their Countrey Slavery, and Idolatry, notwithstanding their exclaiming against the Government, as usurping upon their Priviledges and Charters. They were the occasion of *Israel's* Confederates being oppress'd and overrun. They by brooding such Jealousies and Divisions, laid open the ~~only~~ door that could let in the *Jebusite*. All the Gracious

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Declarations of *David*, all his Assurances to maintain their Privileges and defend their Religion by Law Established, were not satisfactory to this Infatiate Party, for that Religion and Priviledge were only the Ingredients they made use of, to work the People into a Ferment, and then by a continual Application of Fears and Jealousies, to scru' en up into a Rage and Fury, the Consequences whereof they knew would be *Confusion* and *Anarchy*: This they look'd upon as the readiest way to build their Fortunes, which if they could attain to, they cared not though it were upon their Father's *Ruine* and *Destruction*: They long'd to be *Lording* and *Dominering* again over their Fellow Subjects: They had not forgotten the Sweets they enjoyed in the *Sequestrations* of the *Loyalist Estates*, and such as remained faithful

faithful to *David* in his late Troubles: This was sport they itch'd to be at again; and therefore all Persons and things that opposed their destructive Delights, and tended to the preservation and safety of the People and Government, these Traytors traduced as Enemies to the *Kingdom*, and exclaim'd against them as Arbitrary Tools. Yet these very People were the only Persons who aimed and exercised Arbitrary Power.

In the several late Sessions of the *Sanhedrim*, the Seditionaries having got by Surprise and Illegal Elections several of their Faction to be chosen Members, all their Resolves favoured of and tended to *Tyranny*, they sent for up into Custody from all the parts of the Land of *Judah*, such Persons as upon occasion testified their Zeal for the Crown, impri-  
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foned them without any Cause given: And then they voted,  
*That the next Heir being a Jebu-  
 site, and the hopes of his coming  
 such to the Crown, hath given the  
 greatest Countenance and Encou-  
 ragement to the present Designs and  
 Conspiracies against the King and  
 Protestant Religion. Thus they  
 voted the next Heir a Jebusite,  
 which was more than any Man  
 living could tell but himself; but  
 in case he were, the Wisemen of the  
 Jews, were of Opinion, that the  
 most *Prudent* and most *Pious*  
 course, would have been to have  
 employed all imaginable Care  
 and Art for the reducing him to  
 the True Church, whereas this  
 way of proceeding of theirs could  
 but the more enrage and irritate  
 him against the Professors and  
 Doctrine of the True Religion.  
 Besides that Branch of the Vote  
 that affirms, That the next Heirs  
 being*

being a *Jebusite* was what gave the greatest *Countenance* to those Designs that were then on foot against the King, the Government, and the *Jewish Religion*, was contrary to what *Corab* had laid down in his *Depositions*, who said, that the *Jebusites* had declared their *Apprehensions*, that he would not allow of their Designs, and therefore after the Blow was given, they must have been forced to have constrain'd him to give his consent to the *Affassination* of the King his Father, *Massacre* of his true *Jewish Subjects*, firing of his Towns, &c. by pardoning of the *Affassins*, *Murtherers* and *Incendiaries*, that then he also be *poysoned* and destroyed, after they for some time had abused his Name and Title to strengthen in their Plot. All which and several other Passages in *Corab's* and other of the *Evidences Narratives* of

of the Plots, do shew they had no Reliance on the next Heir; but that on the contrary, his Affection and Tenderness towards the King, would render all their Designs abortive.

Yet upon groundless Surmises they proceeded to bring in a Bill of Exclusion, notwithstanding that they well knew, that the Crown of *Judah* was an Hereditary Kingdom or Monarchy, which devolved upon the next Heirs of the Blood Royal, without any Election, or Consent of the People, otherwise than by acknowledging their Lawful Right, derived from God, by their Blood to them; and as undoubtedly their Hereditary Monarchy was set up at first, so it was afterwards upheld and maintain'd by the Providence of God; from which we cannot but infer this Conclusion, That whoever shall

shall attempt to alter such a right of Succession without a manifest Revelation, is a notorious Usurper upon the Right of the Person who is to succeed, be the pretence for it what it will; and a Rebel against that Providence which gave him that Right. Nor could the former Rebellious Usurpations and Disorders be Presidents to justify those who should begin them again: So that no Humane Power can bar and prevent the next Heir his Succession; but by encroaching upon his Right, and by rebelling against the Divine Providence that gave it him. So that be the Inconveniences that shall follow upon such a Succession what they will or can be, the Jews were obliged to submit to them upon pain of Rebellion, both against God and his anointed. And then let any Man be

Judge, if it be not better to fall into the Hands of a *Jebusitish* Prince, than into the Hands of an angry God, who is a consuming Fire; and who is not bound by any Act of a *Sanhedrim* from afflicting a sinful and rebellious People.

Not but that the Loyal Jews, and even those that were stigmatized with the Name of *Jebusites*, did acknowledge that it would be a great Affliction for them to fall into the Hands of a *Jebusitish* Prince; because of the great and implacable Malice which the *Jebusites*, their whole Sect and Tribe have ever borne to the Jews and their Religion, which was more easily defended against them than any other Religion whatsoever, as being founded upon greater Antiquity, derived immediately from God himself, and more conformable

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to the Doctrines of the Prophets. Wherefore *Baal* and the *Jebusites* had left no Stone unturned to re-establish in *Jerusalem*, their Superstitions, and root out the *Jews* and the true Religion; and sticking neither at Perjury, Treason, nor any other Villany that they thought might conduce to that end. And when God by his Gracious Providence had defeated all their damnable Projects, they transformed themselves into the Shapes of the Dissenting *Jews*; and so promoted a Rebellion, which ended in the seeming Ruine of the Religion and Government, to their mighty Content and Satisfaction: But should *David* at his Return, re-established his Church, yet they did first give over; but by a Toleration, by spreading Pamphlets and Libels, written in the Stile of the Dissenting *Jews*, and so very

very acceptable to them, by discouraging all that opposed the intestine Divisions; and a Multitude of such other Frauds, they did in twenty Yearstime so shake the Foundations of the *Protestant* Church again, that *David* with all his Prudence and Piety could hardly preserve and uphold her against the *Jebusitish* Party on the one hand, and the *Dissenters* on the other.

So that if this poor persecuted Church, should have fallen into the hands of a Prince of their Communion, she was to have expected whatever the most enraged Malice, armed with his Authority could inflict upon her; and she had all the reason in the World to expect the *Dissenters* would joyn with them to afflict and ruine her. Not out of any Kindness to *Baptism*, but out of an implacable hatred they both have

have conceived against her: So that the Ark had all the reason in the World to dread that day that should put her into such Hands.

But still with this Limitation, notwithstanding that by avoiding one Mischief, she should not plunge her self into a greater; that is, by flying Persecution from Men, to fall into a Rebellion against her God, by whose Providence Kings and Princes, of what Religion soever they be, rule; and by whom they have in all Ages been so ordered, disposed and governed, as he in his Divine and Holy Wisdom saw most expedient for the Prosperity or Chastisement of his Church, to the greater Encrease of her Glory, and her Happiness in the World to come.

So that the *Sambedrier* could not have proceeded on to the disinheritting the next Heir, by passing

passing a Bill of Exclusion upon him, without doing an Act contrary to natural Justice, by running headlong to Condemnation before Conviction: Besides, it was before they had heard the Party, or examined any Witness about him, at least none in his Defence. And all this without any Law or President, is without doubt very severe. Moreover the Kings of *Judah* had their Right from God alone, and no Power upon Earth could deprive them of it. So that the Proceedings of the *Sanbedrim* in this matter, were precisely contrary, not only to the Law of God, but the Law of the Land too: For if this Bill had pass'd, it would have changed the very Essence of the Monarchy, and have made the Crown elective: For so the same reason that the *Sanbedrim* might have

have disinherited that Prince upon meer Surmises of his difference from them in Religion, other *Sanbedrims* might have disinherited another, upon some other Pretence which they might suggest; and so consequently by such Exclusions elect whom they please. Besides, this Bill of Exclusion was contrary to those Oaths which all such *Jews* as were in Office, and made any Figure in the State, were bound to take, and had taken, to be faithful and Loyal to their Kings and Successors. Neither was this the right Course to prevent those Calamities they so much dreaded; on the contrary, it was the ready way to ascertain them at *David's* Death with the Addition of a Civil War; and in all likelihood bring it upon them before that time too: For so soon as ever the Bill should have past,

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the next Heir would have had a Right to have made War upon the Land of *Judah*, even in *David's* Life time; and what the Event of that would have been, God only knows. However, to have prevented a Surprise, there must have been a Standing Army, or an Association kept up so long as the next Heir lived; and what the Consequences of them might have been was no difficult matter to foresee; the first ruining the Liberties of the People, and the second endangering the Prerogatives of the Crown: And both of them in the divided Condition *Judah* was then in, in point of Religion, tending to raise such Fears and Jealousies, as would have been almost as uneasie and unsafe as a *Jebusite* Successor; and all this brought upon them immediately by their rash and in-  
confi-

considerate Doings: Whereas the other was only future and contingent: So that *Doeg* in his Infamous Libel, called *The Character of a Jealousish Successor*, has drawn up the Case after a false and impious manner; but what could otherwise be expected from such a Fellow as would sell his God for a Meals Meat; and who was only the Arch-Traytor *Abbitophel's* Copist in the Business? But allow the Case to be so as it is stated in that Libel, it would not have justified the excluding such a Successor as he hath described by Force and Arms, against his Right, and their Oaths to the contrary, tho' they were never so certain to succeed in the Attempt; but then that wicked Man has most falsely represented things to the World; and so as it is impossible they should ever have proved in

the Event, if the *Jews* did not give occasion for it; by an im-prosperous Rebellion.

For first it was agreed on by all the World, that there were ten *Jews* for one *Jebusite*; thro' all the Dominions of the Land of *Judah* and *Israel*: so that if such a Successour should attempt to extirpate them, the bare refusing to aid and assist him in such an Enterprize would render it im-possible.

Secondly, All their Laws were in Favour of that Religion which was established, and which could never be repealed but by the *Sanhedrim*; and it's morally im-possible to have a *Sanhedrim*, the Major part of which Will not be of the true *Jewish* Religion, as established, who will never consent to ruine themselves.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, The Revenue of such a Prince could not bear the Charge of so great an Army, as would have been necessary to have reduced the People to a Religion so generally hated and detested as that was.

To all which indeed the Faction made Answer, That he might have had Foreign Aids; and Secondly, that he would have had the means to have allure<sup>d</sup>, deterred, and perverted many from the Jewish Religion to his own.

As to Foreign Assistan<sup>c</sup>es, no Prince will dare to have so many as shall totally over-power his own People, because then they will be able to ruine him; and he may be sure they will do it, self-Interest being the Idol of all the World; so that this was a ridiculous Supposition in a Prince of their own Nation, who

had no other Dominions but those.

As to any Number of People he might have been able to have brought over to his own Religion, they would have been very inconsiderable in Proportion to those who would not have been brought over, tho' the Number were supposed to have been greater than was likely to be: For that some Men have got a Way of reproaching all they hate, with the Name of *Jebusites*, because there was none more hated than that; yet even for that Case the Number must have been too small, being very unwilling to List themselves in a hated Party, except they might have had great Advantages by it; which are not to be afforded to many (in proportion to the rest) in one King's Reign, in so small a Kingdom as that of *Judah*.

Third.

Thirdly, the very Attempting of this with force and violence, would have driven so many People out of the Nation; as would have destroyed both the Princes Revenue and Security, which according to all Appearances of Reason, no Man would have done for his own sake.

To this might be added, that it was three to one whether ever the *Jews* should have had such a Prince: For who but God could tell whether *Solomon* should have survived *David*? But if he did, whether his Interest, the Grace of God, and Man's Humane Inconstancy, would not have work'd upon him to return to that Religion he was first principled in, and for which, *David* and the whole Royal Family had so gloriously suffered.

And after all this, supposing he should have succeeded and have been zealous for his Religion, and suppose that to be *Baalism*; there was no necessity that he must have acted all the worst Principles of *Baalism* to the utmost Degree. It is certain it is not usual so to do; though the difficulty be not so great as here it would have been.

And after all, Doth not the Providence of God govern the *Jebusitish* as well as the *Jewish* Princes? Is the Arm of the All-mighty shortned, that he can neither deliver nor support his *Ark*? Or had he forsaken her in her Old Age, who preserved her with so much Care and Power in her Infancy under Heathen Princes? Do we believe the *Prophets*? Do we believe the *Jewish Religion* is acceptable to him? Are the far greatest part of them that profess it,

it, sincere or false in their pretences? If all this be answered one way, they have something more to rely upon, than the Faith and Religion of *Princes*? If in the other, it would have been but folly to pretend to secure by humane Arts, that which God was resolved to destroy.

But then should we grant that the hopes of the next Heir's coming a *Jebusite* to the Crown, had really given the greatest encouragement to the *Jebusites Plot*, would the *Dis-inheriting* him have defeated those hopes? No, But it would rather have whetted them on to do their utmost to Murther the *King*, to prevent or revenge that injury to the next Heir and their long'd for *Successor*.

So that if any Man would but in cold blood consider on all the *Proceedings* of the *Sanhedrim*; he must necessarily conclude,

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That if ever *Faction*, *Anger*, and *Ill-Designs* were entertained by so great a Body of Men as the major part of that *Assembly* was, it is apparent they were here. Of which it will not be unseasonable to instance, but in some few *Particulars*,

Could ever any Man produce either Precedent or Law to justify the Imprisonment of those Generous and Loyal *Jews*, who publickly declared their Abhorrence of the Irregular, Tumultuous and Trayterous Proceedings of the *Faction*? Had the meanest sort of people of all the twelve Tribes a Right to Petition the King against his Express Command, in a thing of which he was the sole Judge by all the Laws of the Land? and might not such as represented the *King's Person*, or otherwise officiated in the Government, oppose them, or which is

is less, disown those Irregular Proceedings? But suppose they did more than they ought in this their Opposition, was it fit to Im-prison them before they were al-lowed to defend themselves, and urge what they had to plead in their Justification? But being it served those Gentlemen's turn at that time, they made use of it, without considering, that it might one day be turn'd against them themselves, and then how severe a Task it would be to brook it. The Towns and Cor-porations of the Land of *Judah* did send generally the principal of their Tribes and Hundreds, but if this Precedent had once been allowed of, and established, they might have laid them by when they pleased; and have sent Mechanicks, Tradesmen, Shop-keepers, and how would their high Spirits have brook'd

to,

to have been sent for into Custody, and made to kneel, without being suffered to speak, and only for doing their Duties to such Men, and to be sent home again? Certainly none of the Heads of the Tribes could have brook'd such Indignities, but with such inward Resentments as befit the generosity and temper of that Nation, or otherwise they must be thought to have been prepared for Slavery: And all that manly Courage that had made those People renowned in all Countries in the World, was degenerated into the most shameful effeminacy and Cowardise. Only in this case Religion and Loyalty made them yield, even to Injustice and Oppression. As long as God-like *David* thought fit to suffer it, they submitted, but with such Thoughts as would have taught the Faction more Justice

Justice and Moderation, if this had not been in the Case.

Besides, their styling all those Generous Jews who were brought into the Commissions of the Peace, in the room of some others displaced, *Men of Arbitrary Principles, and Countenancers of Jebusites and Baalism*; and if the Faction could have invented more odious Names and Words than these, they might with as much truth and ingenuity have bestowed them upon them. Was it a Priviledge of the *Sanhedrim* to vote a Man a Philistine or an *Egyptian*, or that those who they thought fit were the Men, who occasioned the Breach before *David* and his *Sanhedrim*, and consequently the occasion of all his former Troubles? If it were so, there was no more to be said, but only to beg their pardon, and to kneel down at the Bar of the *San-*  
*hedrim*

*bedrim* with the same submission as if one had believed the Speaker Infallible, and every Member an Angel. But if their Votes were bound to be not only consonant to Law, but agreeable to the truth of things, then that Passage was hastily and passionately written, and not well considered ; and will be an admonishment to them that they take such care for the future as to write more cautiously, and speak and vote like men, that had a little respect to their Places.

Was ever any thing so extravagant as their Vote concerning *David's* Revenues and his borrowing of Money upon them ? Might not a Loyal Jew have lent the King a Talent or two without their leave, and not incur the danger of being reputed an Enemy to the meeting and sitting of *Sanbedrims*? Suppose the *Egypti-*

*Egyptians or the Philistines* should have made an Invasion into the Land of *Israel* or *Judah*, or the *Jebusites*, or Dissenting *Jews* have risen, and *David* have wanted Money to have suppressed the One, or have driven out the Other, must the Loyal *Jews* have hazarded His or their own Ruine, rather than supply him by a Loan in the Intervalls of the *Sanhedrim*, had not they a Property in what was their own, and might not they use it as they saw Cause, without breach of Priviledge of *Sanhedrim* ?

They Voted too, That the Prosecution of the Dissenting *Jews* upon the Penal Laws, *Was at that time grievous to the Subject, a weakening of the Jewish Interest, an Encouragement to Baalism, and dangerous to the Peace of the Kingdom* : And this Vote is as incomprehensible as any of the rest. Why.

Why was it made? To what Subject is it grievous? To the Dissenters? why then let them leave their Dissenting to the Ark and all will be well. What *Jewish Interest* doth it weaken? Doth it weaken the *Jewish Interest* that is settled by Law? Then why did they not say so? But how it encouraged *Baalism*, or endangered the Peace of the Nation, was yet harder to be understood? But suppose it did; What then? They might repeal the Bills they had on Foot, that would have repealed them, if they might but have passed; but they were to be Adjourned, and had not time to finish them: And did they think to have laid them asleep by their single Vote, without the Consent of the Elders, or of the King? They should have done well then to have told the Nation that they had the Legislative Power in their

own

own hands, and that it was contrary to Law for any Man to act against a Vote of the *Sanbedrim*, tho' in obedience to the Laws of the Land.

Now if they had carryed these few points in this Session.

First, Not only to deny the King any Supply, but to make it Criminal for any Man to lend him Money upon his Revenues, they might then in another Session have gone further, and have made it punishable for any Man to have paid him his just, settled, legal Dues; and that would have made them able to have forced the King or his Successors to what ever they had pleased.

Secondly, They might have proceeded to imprison *David's* Subjects in an illegal and Arbitrary way, for Matters that had no Relation to Priviledges of *Sanbedrim*, they might afterwards have

have extended this to as many persons and things as they had pleased ; and so no man would have dared to have stood by *David* against a *Sanhedrim*, tho' they had attempted to depose him. Nor would *David* in a short time have been able to have protected his Subjects against any Injury that they, or any of them had been pleased to have done them ; which would infallibly have subverted the Monarchy, and have introduced a Commonwealth.

Thirdly, If they had got that great Branch of the Legislative Power into their Hands, of suspending the Execution of Laws by their Votes, they might have driven it as far as they pleased, and so have outed the King and the Elders as a former *Sanhedrim* did by the same means.

These and a thousand other Cir-

Circumstances concurring to make all unbiased and understanding People suspect, nay, believe, that there was a Plot of the Dissenting *Jews* upon the Government and Religion, as by Law established: the Loyallists began to rowze up, and by their vigorous Zeal and Vigilance to support the Throne and State, defeated the Designs of the Faction, whose Weakness and Emp-tiness they exposed, and made appear their own Strength and Numbers, to exceed beyond all Comparison those of the *Seditio-naries*, who now having lost all Hopes of retrieving their Cause, began to shift for themselves, lest a longer Stay might have exposed them to the just Fury and Resentment of the Law.

Amongst all those Sculkers and Fugitives, none had more reason to look out betime for a safe

safe Retreat from a just revenge than the wicked *Achitophel*: He had been the hellish Contriver of all those Devilish Machinations against the Peace, Welfare, and Tranquility of the State: But how heinous soever the Sins of the People were, Heaven out of its abundant goodness, thought not fit to punish them so severely, and to suffer them to be the second time plung'd into the dreadful Calamities of a *Civil War*, as they had like to have been by that Impostor of a Patriot.

Thus all Prospect of Success, in his Designs being vanished, the People irritated and enraged against him for the Desolations they had like to have fallen under by his means; & justice gaping after Revenge for so many diteful Effects of his Diabolical Contrivances, he resolved for *Tyre*, where several of his Tools were gone

gone before out of the same Motive of Self-Security, and to prepare for his Reception.

Yet first he was to take his Leave of haughty *Jezabel*. Being come to her for that purpose, he let her know, both by his Looks and Words the Torment and Anguish he lay under, for having been so disappointed in his Designs and Endeavors to pull down Monarchy, and set up his and her Creatures in its Stead. He told her, he had risqued not only Life, Body and Soul for that purpose ; but that he had moreover inveigled his Friends into the same Perils and Dangers, and had hazarded the utter ruine of the *Jewish Nation* for her Interests. She let him know how sensible she was of his good intention, that she was well acquainted that he had used all the tricks and Stratagems of Policy, for the

pro-

promoting her end, and that since he had done all that lay in the Power and Art of Man, they had only to complain of their Destiny for the disappointment, and that he should find in her all the acknowledgment his good endeavours deserved. That she approved of his design of taking Refuge at *Tyre*, where she knew he would be most welcome to a little Sister she had there, who had been always his Darling, and she always mindful of his good Offices for her Promotion. That *Tyre* was the only place of safe retreat for him, since her other Sister at *Hebron* was become an Apostate to their Cause and Blood, being by the Charms of *David's* Reign deluded into a fondness and good Opinion of Kingly Government. And as for her other little Sisters they were not in a Capacity to shelter him from the just resentment of an incensed Prince,

Prince, that she her self would only stay till she had settled her Affairs, and then would follow him to his Sanctuary, where he should receive from her such returns as corresponded more with his Endeavours, than the Issue of his Designs. Thus after many other such like kind and tender Expressions and Assurances, he took his leave and departed for Tyre.

But at his Arrival there, he found himself again disappointed in his Expectations, for the little Sister instead of receiving him with those Careless and Blandishments, she usually welcom'd People with of his Temper and Kidney, gave him but a cold and poor entertainment. She still remembered the *Persecutions and Calamities* she had suffered by the means of his *Counsels*, she still remembered his Speech in the *Sanhedrim*, pressing her ruine, and which indeed brought her to the Brink of

of *Desirition*, so that it was unreasonable to expect she could look favourably upon a Man whom she had so many Reasons to hate and detest, and who was so far from any true affection to anyone, or any Society soever, that he has always prov'd the very best of humane kind, only for the carrying on his own *designs* and *Interests*. Thus she made him sensible that she still bore him a grudge, which went so to his heart, with the displeasure to find all his *Devilish Wiles* and *Practices* display'd and expos'd to the eyes of all People, to find he was become the abomination of all the sound and honest part of *mankind*, Achitophel laying all these things to heart, I say, put an end to his loathed Life in such wise as the World well knows.

**F I N I S.**





THE  
FUGITIVE STATESMAN  
IN  
REQUITAL  
FOR THE  
PEOPLES' BUREAU

卷之三

TODAY

Bilingual Polyglot Games

THE  
FUGITIVE STATESMAN,  
IN  
REQUITAL  
FOR THE  
Perplex'd Prince.



L O N D O N ,

Printed by A. Crover, 1683.



~~illness, death, or treason~~

~~in the State of France~~

~~which had been declared~~

**READER.**

~~of the English being~~

**THE** Fashion, a-

~~and so many others~~

~~in their Instructions~~

~~have so frequently given~~

~~of their Spies and Ha-~~

~~med to the Government,~~

~~but they shewed their~~

~~Malice more in any one~~

~~particular than in the~~

~~Engagement of the Black~~

~~Box, which furnished a~~

~~some~~

A 3. Pre-

Pretext to a Libel, called  
The Perplex'd Prince, &  
which tho' but shortly  
writ, yet the Ambigui-  
ty of the Design being  
the poison People's Minds  
with an Opinion of some  
Probability and Truth in  
that Matter. It will  
thoroughly bewitch the  
souls of their Peers and of  
their Principles. Hence  
in this true Colours of  
all we for want but Publishing  
which have beene dreading  
which yet scorns. Feare not

Elizabethe my daughter. And  
Elizabethe be it. And I am  
and her concubine bearing  
the. And she of whom  
Angels. And a ydor's wife  
and. Mirrorm of him van-  
ished too often. Dangled in  
the darkness may avoid  
falling into the Snare of  
those wicked, interpreted  
Faintness. And I have left  
behind him, though never  
wishes, undermining in the  
Foundations of the. God  
and me, and we are  
genuinely brewing Sedition,  
with

with the highest Integrity  
true, after all the Inqui-  
gencē and repeated Par-  
sions of their Gracious  
Prince and Sovrēign:—  
Tho' they can have now  
no Hopes, no Prospect  
of ever bringing about  
their rag'd for Anar-  
chy; yet we still daily  
see fresh Instances of their  
restless Endeavours to that  
End, so that one would  
think they do not yet  
speak of effecting their  
Purposes, notwithstanding  
they

I have lost their Pa-  
tron. But it is to be bo-  
ned their good Intention  
will be Crown'd with the  
same Favour with that of the  
relicked Achitophel; and  
that they more too will be  
thinking of setting their  
Houses in Order. It is  
true, for they are now be-  
come so much the Dates of  
all Mankind, that  
they can expect but little  
Comfort in this World;  
and I am afraid, unless  
they give other Testimonies  
than

than they have yet done of  
their good Nature and Re-  
pentance; they are much  
expect much Happiness  
and Felicity in ~~the~~ to come. ~~If~~ <sup>they</sup> ~~had~~ <sup>had</sup> ~~been~~ <sup>been</sup> ~~so~~ <sup>so</sup> ~~ignorant~~ <sup>ignorant</sup> for  
ever they have ~~been~~ <sup>been</sup> ~~reduced~~ <sup>reduced</sup>  
both to Church and State,  
they would be ~~glad~~ <sup>glad</sup> to see  
they had a due Scence of  
their former practices; and  
could they be but preach-  
ed with to ask Forgiv-  
ness, they would undoubt-  
edly obtain their Pardon;  
But it is so much their  
and  
Nature

Nature, and they seem so  
obstinately bent upon doing  
Mischief, that there is no  
probability of their ever  
being persuaded to forsake  
their evil ways. And since  
no Counsels do avail for the  
reducing them to their du-  
ty: nor to court them from  
destruction, we must even  
abandon them to their  
Fate, which undoubtedly  
at length will do them Ju-  
stice, and reward them ac-  
cording to their Merits.

With due regard to the  
whole

**THE**

ЭНТ

Condition of the Poor & the  
State of the Country.

---

THE HISTORY  
OF SISSES  
THE FUGITIVE  
STATESMAN.

THE Land of Shida had  
never attained to that  
refinedness in Gallan-  
try, as under the Reign  
of David, that Prince having  
overcome all his Enemies both  
Foreign and Domestic, and  
established himself by his just and  
gentle Government, as well in the  
Hearts of his People, as upon the  
Throne of Israel, gave up those  
bouts which are so necessary for  
Refreshment to amorous Delights,  
and was herein so universally imi-  
tated by all his Subjects, that  
there was none of what Age and

Condition sever but had some  
Intrigue, insomuch that by this  
general Practice, there was no  
manner of Artifice, Contrivance,  
or Stratagem for the well ma-  
naging an Amour, but what was  
brought to the highest Perfection,  
during the time of his way-  
ing the Scepter.

During this time that he  
subvert David and Isboseth for  
the Crown of Israel, when finding  
the only Justice of his  
own Country but that it would be  
absolutely impossible for the Con-  
queror's Subjects with stand the Power  
of a King, he did impishly divide  
his dominions. Of course he obtained  
his Brightest Throne, which he  
left his Country under his Command,  
which David accepted of. Of course  
Conditions of his going into a  
Marriage with her, which he did her  
Country, having given her this Treaty



He knew done more fit than himself for clost Designes and crooked Complots; he was a Man sagacious and bold, had not only all the Arts of a Minister of State, but was as dexterous in the well managing of an Ambition. Intrigues he knew that he was ambitious, and had had but merly some Kindnes for David, which was now turned into a violent Resentment, upon his being preferred. But before her. All these Circumstances concurring to abe flattening his Hopes, he resolved to embark in this Design, notwithstanding he had not all the Advantages of Body as concur to themaking a compleat and an agreeable Gallant. He was not long without finding an Occasion to make known to her his Passion, which he declared in such Terms as were most capable of Persuasion, and greatest

solid Foundation: But notwithstanding the Favour he had in the State, and the considerable Influence he had both in Court and elsewhere, he met with more Severity than he expected, and was treated with some sort of Scorn and Disdain, for having that Opinion of Her Chancery, as to think all Hostages unworthy of Her Allowance, that were not made by Crowned Heads. Nevertheless Achitaphel's Blaznes were too raging to be stifled by this Resistance, and as it was one branch of his Character to undertake difficult Attempts, and to persevere until they had brought to pass his Design; this Opposition did but the more will his Desires, and make him fix the greater Value upon the Object he adored: Thus he resolved never to desist until he had accomplished the Aim, and so he did.

that purpose he besieged her with continual Affidavities, informing her constantly of all the Occurrences in the Cabinet Councils and Court, and secret Cabals in the City, and by these means softening her intriguing and aspiring Temper, and so by degrees insinuating himself into her Breast, he became in a short time a very extraordinary Favourite.

He had now changed his Conduct in the management of this Intrigue; He forbore speaking to her of Love, expressing no Passion but for her Service, and her interest, telling her that no Prince less upon the Earth, would so well become a Throne as she, that undoubtedly Providence would one day do her and herself the Justice, as to give her the Crown of all Asia. And when that my great Sovereign's Bed was vacant, he seem'd grieved that their Religion

ligion would not allow of a Match, that so he might have shown his Zeal for her Advancement, in using his Interest for the bringing it to pass. By such like Discourses as these, did he win upon her haughty Humour, and became to that degree her Bosom Friend, that imagining she could not expect ever to find a Person so proper as *Achitophel* to make her Confident, nor one more capable of putting in Execution her fatal Designs, she resolved to ease her Heart of those tormenting Thoughts, which she therd kept pent up, by making *Achitophel's* Breast the Répository of them. Thus one day after having acquainted her with the Passages at Court, and entertained her for a long while with the Zeal she had for her Service: My Lord, said she, to *Achitophel*, I am sensible of your good Intentions and

am glad to find your Love changed into a Passion for my Interests, and to shew you how far you have won upon me, by the repeated Instances of your good Will and Favour, I am willing to unbosom to you my most secret Thoughts, and let you know what reason I have to be a Malecontent. You may remember, continued she, how that upon my Sister *Michal's* Marriage to *David*, I fell ill of a Feaver, and I must own, though not without a Blush, that his good Meen, his Wit, in short, all those advantages he had received both from Art and Nature, had made some impression upon my Heart, and if I was not flattered I might have expected to have made the like in his; but notwithstanding all my endearing Carriage, I found him insensible to all my Favours, nothing but *Michal* could he adore.

She

She was the Object of althis Prai-  
 ses, and I of his Scorn and Neglect. I  
 Nevertheless, I patiently bore  
 with this Preference, since it was  
 supported and confirmed by the  
 Will of *Saul*, and since he was  
 wholly ignorant of the Senti-  
 ments I entertained, tho I had  
 made all the Advances possible  
 to hint to him how favourably  
 his Vows would be heard if paid  
 to me, and told him all such en-  
 dearing things, as were consistent  
 with the Glory of a Princess of  
 my Rank. But *David* was so  
 blinded with his Passion for *Mi-  
 chal*, that he had no Eyes for o-  
 ther Charms. However in a  
 short time you know the Change  
 at Court, *David* was drove from  
 thence. I know it Madam, inter-  
 rupted *Abstophel*, for I am sure, I  
 was the chief occasion of his Exile  
 and Sufferings, but pardon the  
 Interruption, Madam, you shall

hear more of that hereafter. You  
know *David* was banished the  
Court, renewed she, you know  
*Michal* his Wife was given by  
*Saul* to *Phalti*, the Son of *Lappi*  
and now my Love made me con-  
tinue fresh Hopes, I fancied *Da-  
vid* would never condescend to  
a Reconciliation with a Person  
who had yielded to give her self  
to another, I had reason to expect  
*David* would certainly one day  
mount the Throne being so uni-  
versally rooted in the Affections  
of the People, and I had the Va-  
nity to believe that all the twelve  
Tribes could not furnish a Person  
fitter to share with him in his Glor-  
ies than my self. And when accord-  
ingly he returned, and you were  
sent to bring *Michal* back, my  
hopes revived more strong than  
ever, for though I might have ap-  
prehended he might have had  
some inclination still left for her,  
yet

yet knowing how much she had lost of her former Charms since their last Interview, I did not despair of undermining her, and succeeding in her place. This made me the more eager to accompany her to *Jerusalem*, where I was cruelly disappointed of all my Expectations. *Micah* 'tis true has not that share in *David*'s Affection's she formerly possessed, 'tis *Bathsheba* now that is the Mistress of his Affections, she reigns sovereignly in his Breast, I and my Family are dayly more neglected and depressed, and all for a Person much beneath my Rank, and, may be, Merits. Here she passed, and the wily *Achitophel*, re-assuming the Discourse, told her that he had been long sensible of the Indignities she suffered, and as long desirous of procuring the means of doing her Justice, and of furnishing her with Occasions

to shew her Resentment. It is not only the Outrages, pursued he, that are done to all those Charms you possess in so sovereign a Degree, and the Passion I have in all that concerns you, that prompts me to Revenge, I have some Reasons of my own, that might pretend to spur me to it, if yours, Madam, alone were not sufficient to put me upon the Wing. I am neglected too at Court, *Husbai's* Counsels are preferred before mine, and I am not thought worthy of having that share in the present management of Affairs, that perhaps I am capable of. I am suspected of being still inclined to the Family and Practices of your Father *Saul*; and they have not yet forgotten the part I had in the several dismal Revolutions. And I must indeed confess, I was never over-well affected to Kingly Government;

vernment; in Commonwealths, the bravest and wisest have commonly their share. But in a Monarchy all goes generally by Favour and Affection, and a Man cannot be thought a good Subject without being a Slave, and that Servility is in my Mind inconsistent with a generous Temper. Thus my natural Disposition led me to promote and foment the late Troubles, and I found David then, though so young, yet so extraordinarily gifted, that I foresaw he would have but little need of the Ministry of others, and I despised of ever having any thing to do in the administration of the Government, unless his Exclusion was obtained. This set me to work, and I found more ease than I expected in my undertaking; People were easily decoyed with Alarums of Invasion of their Properties, and Suppression

pretion of their Liberties, we  
 scattered Rumours abroad of the  
 extraordinary Influence the Jacob  
 eans had at Court, and of the like-  
 hood there was of their introduc-  
 ting their Religion, if not sud-  
 denly prevented and vigorously  
 opposed. These Bases not only  
 took with the silly People but  
 with the whole Sanhedrim, they  
 entered into Covenants, and by  
 United Forces, they at length  
 found the means to deprive the  
 King both of his Crown and Life,  
 and expel the Heir the Kingdom.  
 Yet all we who had first pro-  
 posed this Revolution, were dis-  
 appointed in our Hopes, for the Arts  
 we made use of usurped the  
 Power we had promised our  
 selves, but then it was too late,  
 we were constrained to submit to  
 the Arbitrary Temper of the  
 Sword, and so brought upon  
 the People what they had so much  
 dreading

dreamed, and what misery should  
 fall to them? had endeavoured  
 to prevent the loss of their  
 Fortunes, and their Lives, and  
 thus did we occasion all the Ca-  
 lamities that a whole Nation in  
 Combustion can suffer, without  
 any Benefit to ourselves, but  
 we were forced to dissemble, and  
 content ourselves to stand as Cy-  
 phers to the Usurper. But he  
 being dead, and easily dispossess'd  
 upon the Throne, we felt again  
 to contrive how to out him  
 thence, and to place ourselves  
 in his stead. By these means our  
 Party being divided, the People  
 more generally affected to their  
 promised Prince David, and one  
 of our Chief Leaders upon our  
 Backs with an Army, with which  
 he favoured the King's Return.  
 All these things, I say, concer-  
 ring to make me dispair of my  
 own Advancement; and to see

His